(c) the steps taken to settle the issue and avoid the strike?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of the demands of the Federation are given below:—

(i) The dealers' margin must be fixed at 5% of invoice value.

(ii) The Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) 2005 should be revised to incorporate the outcome of the discussions already held.

(iii) Pending submission of the report of the Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun, no action should be taken against the dealers for negative stock losses beyond the current permissible limits.

(iv) The Industry is to provide the marker testing equipment to the dealers, in line with the decision conveyed to the dealers when the marker system was introduced.

(v) Appoint an appellate authority where the dealers may make an appeal against the decisions of the officers of oil companies.

The demands of the Federation are under consideration.

Use of ethanol

†4390. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that this has been agreed upon that sugar mills of the country would sell ethanol at the rate of Rupees 21.50 per litre;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and whether an annual requirement of five percent mixture have been estimated by Government;

(c) if so, what is the total quantity and the present annual supply of ethanol in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether it is also a fact that the dividend of oil companies can be increased due to the mixing of ethanol; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have invited public tenders on industry basis for procurement of Ethanol on delivered basis at their depots/terminals. The procurement price of Ethanol varies from location to location and from State to State depending upon the taxes and levies imposed by the respective States and transportation cost.

(b) The total annual requirement of Ethanol for 5% Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme is about 0.56 million KL.

(c) The total production of Industrial Alcohol in seven major producing States namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand during 2005-06 is 1.35 million KL.

(d) Ethanol procurement is done by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) based on economic feasibility. As such there is no scope for additional revenue generation for the OMCs.

(e) Does not arise.

Dividend in processing of crude oil

†4391. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have made an assessment of the amount of dividend in the processing of crude oil in crude oil refineries in the country; and

(b) if so, the average per barrel dividend in dollars as assessed during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 in public and private oil refineries?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.